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are going to go out there and do their own thing. I don't think that is true at all and I think Senator Warner and the Appropriations Committee and this body are going to have some control over that as well as I think we should have. But I think another thing needs to be said and I don't mean this as a threat at all, but I think we need to understand that if we are going to ask the taxpayers in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, or Chadron, Nebraska, or North Platte, Nebraska, or Kearney, Nebraska, to support the University of Nebraska at the level that many of us think that the University should be supported at, then those people are going to have to feel that they are being served by that institution as well. And when we had our hearing, and I will admit that we probably didn't get into the area of postsecondary institutions as much as we should have over the summer with our interim hearings but we were busy with a few other issues as well, as you all know, but when we had our hearing in Alliance, Nebraska, one of the things that we were told by the Chambers of Commerce of Scottsbluff, Alliance, Chadron, Sidney and a few other towns out there was that, look, we pay taxes in this state too, our middle management people deserve the opportunity to move up in their profession as much as those people who are middle management people close to the Lincoln and Omaha area.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: And I agree with that. If we expect those people to continue to pay those taxes to support the University to the level that we believe it should be supported to, then we better damn well figure out a way to make the University go out there and provide those services. Now whether it is through the University or whether it is through the state colleges, I don't care. As I have told some other folks before, I don't care who grants the degree. The Alliance Public Schools can grant the degree as far as I am concerned, but somebody better be granting that degree and providing that access to those folks out there or I can tell you very honestly they are going to say, why should we support higher education at the level that we are asked to when we are not getting the results of that expenditure? That is what this is all about. Access is important and